Kevin Langue brought me back to YouTube

By LILLIAN CURTIN
Opinion Editor

Growing up, I was a YouTube junkie. It was a time before streaming services and yearlong waits for new shows — I'd go home after a day in middle school and turn on a Shane Dawson, Liza Koshy or a Colleen Ballinger video.

Whether my favorite YouTubers went on to bigger things, or basically ended their career on a ukulele, I stopped watching so much. Save for the occasional music video, or just to watch ASMR, I don't even think about the app that once held my childhood.

That is, until now — thanks to Kevin Langue.

Langue started his channel with skit-like videos over eight years ago, barely reaching 7,000 views. Looking back, his old videos almost foreshadow the ones he now makes. His old content was videos with his friends, similar to the content now. Truthfully, while it's Langue's channel, he and his friends make the videos worth watching, and it wouldn't be the same without the others.

His views started picking up as soon as he started incorporating his friends. It's not to say he isn't funny by himself, but there is a feeling that the friend group gives when you watch it — it's as if you're a part of their inside jokes.

You know an actor is good when you forget that they are acting and you are fully immersed. Langue's friend group carries the same feeling with the viewers. The jokes and



ILLUSTRATION BY KATERINA PARIZKOVA

friendships feel so natural and authentic that you forget that you aren't there.

Langue began collaborating with other YouTubers and content creators a few years after starting his channel. He made multiple videos with Tara Yummy, before either of them grew as creators.

Even as his career developed and he continued to collaborate with trending creators, he still wasn't reaching major milestones when it came to views. That changed two years ago when he first posted the type of video he is now best known for.

One table, a few friends and a guessing game. In 2023, Langue posted "Match The Girlfriend To The Boyfriend." This type of video would make him famous. Since then, he's created countless "guess who" videos.

Now, in 2025, the production quality has gotten better and the list of friends has grown. Denny Love, Herman "Herm" Wrice and Aaron Branch help make up the show. The combination of these three plus Langue makes it one of the funniest and most entertaining channels I've seen in a long time.

Since discovering him the same way I discovered many things — on TikTok — The Kevin Langue show has become a favorite of mine. One of the first videos I watched was a game where they had to guess which person behind the curtain was a child, just by listening to their voice.

That one video was funny, but it was the guys that got me hooked on the whole channel. If it were anyone else, I wouldn't have found it funny, but there was something about them that had me cracking up.

I swear I'm not boring or hard to humor, but it's rare that I actually laugh at anything online, if I'm by myself. However, I've found many instances while watching Langue where I've laughed at the videos.

Langue is a director by trade, and it shows. The editing, ideas and production are all so well put together. There are constant surprises. For example, an older woman named Joy was one of the participants, trying to make the guys believe she was a child. She herself was hilarious and had fans, myself included, laughing at how ridiculous it was. Months later, they brought Joy back as a guest judge for a similar video.

I watch The Kevin Langue show like it's an actual show. It's exactly how I used to watch YouTube when I was younger. It's a strange, but familiar feeling that I hadn't revisited in nearly 10 years.

I never thought that I'd be able to say "I have a favorite YouTuber" again, but here I am. I'm back on YouTube, watching videos for entertainment, rather than just falling asleep.

Powering the Honmoon in real life

'K-Pop Demon Hunters' becomes a world-wide phenomenon

By ALEXANDRA MARTINAKOVA
Editor-In-Chief

Unless you've been living under a rock — or just never open your social media or talk to another human being — you have heard about "K-pop Demon Hunters," Netflix's newest sensation that dropped on June 20.

In the strange case that you haven't, this animated movie follows three K-pop stars Rumi (Arden Cho — known as Kira from Teen Wolf), Mira (May Hong) and Zoey (Ji-young Yoo), who double as demon hunters and try to seal the Golden Honmoon — a seal that would stop all demons from stealing souls. Except their plans get complicated due to a demon boy band led by Jinu (Ahn Hyo-seop), who exposes Rumi's secret: She's part demon herself.

That's as simple as the explanation can get, unless you want to open the can of metaphors within this movie.

(If I spoiled that for you, all I can say is that if you didn't know by now, you really do live under a rock.)

What made this movie so popular wasn't just the superb animation — though it is incredible and definitely worth talking about — but the songs that have, and still are, dominating the charts.

So much so that on Aug. 23, a limited two-day theatrical sing-along version was released and earned Netflix its first box-office win, pulling an estimated $17-$18 million across 1,700 movie theaters in North America.

If that wasn't enough, during the week of Aug. 30, the Billboard Hot 100 boasted all of the movies' songs in the top 25 spots, with "Golden" leading the charts.

This song has made an impact, both in the movie and in the real world. Huntrix (the name of the group in the movie) is the first female group to top the Hot 100 since Destiny's Child in 2001.

And yes, it might seem silly to think that an animated group is topping the charts — and people's playlists — but we can't forget that there are real voices behind the drawn faces.

The singing voices for the characters are different then their main voice actors. Rumi's singing voice is Ejae — a songwriter/producer known for her contributions to various songs for K-pop girl groups Twice, Red Velvet and Aespa (including the viral TikTok song "Drama"). Mira is voiced by Audrey Nuna, an American R&B singer and rapper and Zoey's singing voice is Rei Ami, an American singer-songwriter and voice actress, most known for her feature on Sub Urban's song "Freak" that went viral on TikTok in 2020.

We also cannot overlook the Saja Boys. The demon boy band might only have two songs, but they certainly made their mark.

Jinu's singing voice is Andrew Choi, a South Korean singer and composer with songwriting credits in groups like NCT 127 and NCT Ten. He is supported by the singers of the other demon band members, Romance (Samuil Lee), Mystery (Kevin Woo), Abby (Neckwav) and Baby Saja



ILLUSTRATION BY KATERINA PARIZKOVA

(Danny Chung) (yes, those are the actual names, the writers were very creative with these ones, I don't know what to tell you).

"Soda Pop" has seen great success not only in the charts, but on TikTok as well, with people learning the movie dance — but the real star of the show is definitely "Your Idol."

In fact, that song got so popular, Saja Boys managed to dethrone BTS by breaking one of their records, when the song hit No. 2 most streamed song on US Spotify. BTS' "Dynamite" only reached No. 3.

Now, The Army (BTS fanbase) might not be exactly thrilled about that, but the members (including a lot of other idols) seem to be Saja Boys fans themselves.

Many idols that are currently on tours have referenced the "Soda Pop" dance or posted "Your Idol" covers on their social media in the recent weeks.

My personal favorite, and probably the most overlooked song, has to be "Free." Choi and Ejae share incredible vocals and somehow manage to make incredibly cheesy lyrics feel incredibly relatable and emotional.

Truly, while the regular voice actors did an incredible job, the singers need to start getting more recognition.

Still not convinced "K-pop Demon Hunters" is probably one of the greatest movies of all time?

After just two months it has become Netflix's most watched movie of all time with 236 million views — beating the previous record of 230 million views held by "Red Notice" — which stars Gal Gadot, The Rock and Ryan Reynolds.

So next time you hear anyone say that K-pop is not good music and that nobody listens to it anymore, tell them to open Netflix. Or put "Soda Pop" on repeat because as — Huntrix admitted — "it is annoyingly catchy."